

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00

EUR-12 ERDA-05 ISO-00 EA-07 /039 W

-----040324Z 049687 /63

R 040142Z FEB 77

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3745

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MELBOURNE 0242

EXCON

E O 11652 GDS

TAGS ESTC, PINR, AS

SUBJ: AUSTCAN INDUSTRIES, SUITE 21, 562 ST KILDA RD,

MELBOURNE AND/OR 4 MAGNOLIA ST, WANTIRNA, VICTORIA; BRIAN

K MCPHERSON, MANAGING DIRECTOR

REFS A COMPLIANCE DIVISION, OEA, INVESTIGATIVE CASE 11(77)-2

B STATE 020548 C CANBERRA 767

1. AUSTCAN INDUSTRIES NOT RPT NOT LISTED MELBOURNE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY; NO FIRM LISTED FOR WHICH AUSTCAN COULD BE ABBREVIATION OR ACRONYM. B. K. MACPHERSON, 4 MAGNOLIA, WANTIRNA, VICTORIA (MELBOURNE SUBURB) IS LISTED (TEL 231-4101). ALSO LISTED IS C.S.S. (DESIGN) PTY LTD, 562 ST KILDA ROAD, MELBOURNE (TEL 51.6856) AND C. E. AMY, 1 SOUTH DALY, WEST BRUNSWICK, VICTORIA (ANOTHER SUBURB) (TEL 280-8073). NOT RPT NOT LISTED ARE AMY'S COMPANY, COMPUTER MANUFACTURE AND DESIGN PTY LTD (OR C.M.A.D..LN AND J. FARREL (SINGLE L.) THERE ARE, HOWEVER, 32 J. FARRELLS (DOUBLE L) IN DIRECTORY.

2. POST ECONOFFS CURRAN AND MARSHALL VISITED AUSTCAN/C.S.S. (DESIGN)'S ADDRESS ON ST KILDA ROAD, SHORT DISTANCE FROM
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CONGEN, ON FEB 2. THOUGH IN PRESTIGIOUS, STILL-DEVELOPING COMMERICAL OFFICE AREA, NO 562 IS OLD APARTMENT BUILDING CONVERTED INTO OFFICE SUITES. NEITHER BUILDING NOR TENANT ROSTER VERY IMPRESSIVE. DOOR TO SUITE 21 WAS WIDE OPEN AND OFFICE SUITE APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN VACATED. NEITHER COMPANY'S NAME APPEARED ANYWHERE IN SUITE, ON MAILBOXES OR ON BUILDING. ACCORDING TO SECRETARY IN ACCOUNTING FIRM IN

SUITE NEXT DOOR, FARREL AND MACPHERSON HAD OFFICE(S) IN SUITE 21 UNTIL TWO/THREE MONTHS AGO AND MACPHERSON STILL PICKES UP MAIL DELIVERED TO BUILDING WHICH IS HELD FOR HIM BY ANOTHER ACCOUNTING FIRM IN SUITE 18.

3. LATER AT CONGEN, MARSHALL TRIED C.S.S. (DESIGN)'S ST. KILDA ROAD PHONE NUMBER, EXPECTING NO ANSWER, BUT PHONE WAS ANSWERED BY MAN WHO SAID IT WAS C.S.S. AND WHEN ASKED SAID AUSTCAN SHARED SAME OFFICE. WE ASSUME PHONE NUMBER HAS BEEN RELOCATED IN SAME EXCHANGE AREA. MARSHALL ENDED CONVERSATION THEN WITHOUT IDENTIFYING SELF.

4. CURRAN VISITED C.M.A.D.'S SOUTH MELBOURNE ADDRESS, TWO BLOCKS FROM CONGEN, ON FEB 3. ADDRESS IS OLD TWO-STORY BRICK INDUSTRIAL COMMERICAL BUILDING WHICH, FROM SIGNS AND LAYOUT INITIALLY APPEARED COMPLETELY OCCUPIED BY ONE TENANT, INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR PTY LTD(IB) WHOSE BUSINESS APPEARS TO BE IMPORTER-WHOLESALE OF ARTS, CRAFTS AND OTHER CONSUMER GOODS, PARTICULARLY FROM ASIA. IB MANAGER SAID C.M.A.D. WAS ON SECOND FLOOR OF BUILDING. SECOND FLOOR WAS, HOWEVER, MOSTLY LOFT SPACE USED FOR STORAGE OF PHILIPPINE BASKETWARE IMPORTED BY IB. C.M.A.D.'S OFFICE SUITE CONSISTED OF ABOUT 400 SQ FT IN PARTITIONED-OFF CORNER OF LOFT; IT HAD NO FRONT DOOR OR SEPARATE ENTRANCE TO BUILDING AND WAS PHYSICALLY VERY MUCH PART OF IB. NO PERSONNEL WERE IN SIGHT, ALTHOUGH IT APPEARED TO BE OCCUPIED. ON LEAVING WITHOUT HAVING SEEN OR SPOKEN TO C.M.A.D. PERSONNEL, CURRAN LEARNED FROM IB MANAGER HE HAS BEEN AT ADDRESS ABOUT ONE YEAR AND IMPORTS, INTER ALIA, ARTIFACTS (SUCH AS LARGE
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CERAMIC ANIMALS) FROM VIET NAM. ALTHOUGH NOT NOTED, LIKELY THAT IB ALSO IMPORTS SIMILAR GOODS FROM PRC.

5. POST HAS NOT RPT NOT YET CONTACTED MACPHERSON. WE ARE REQUESTING DUN AND BRADSTREET REPORTS ON AUSTCAN, C.S.S.(DESIGN), COMPUTER MANUFACTURE AND DESIGN, AND INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MELBOURNE 0242

EXCON

6. POST CONSULAR SECTION FILES NIV APPLICATIONS ONLY
CHRONOLOGICALLY, NOT ALPHABETICALLY, AND WITH ABOUT 40,000
ON FILE CANNOT QUICKLY RETRIEVE MACPHERSON'S APPLICATION
WITHOUT KNOWING AT LEAST MONTH OF ISSUE. B-1 AND B-2
APPLICATIONS KEPT ONLY 12 MONTHS. IN ANY CASE, WOULD
APPRECIATE RECEIVING ASSURANCE FROM OEA/CD THAT MACPHERSON IS
NOT RPT NOT U.S. CITIZEN. REFTEL IMPLIES THIS; CAN WE BE
SURE? CAN INS PROVIDE POST ANY DATA ON MACPHERSON'S ENTRIES
INTO US?

7. IN VIEW MANY PECULIARTIES ABOUT THIS WHOLE BUSINESS, POST
STRONGLY ENDORSES OEA/CD'S JUDGMENT (PARA 9 REFTEL) THAT
FURTHER INQUIRIES NEEDED BEFORE ISSUING ANY FURTHER EXPORT
LICENSES TO SUBJECT APPLICANT. IN ADDITION TO INQUIRIES
THROUGH D AND B AND OTHER POSSIBLE CHANNELS WHICH WE ARE
EXPLORING, WE WOULD APPRECIATE OEA/CD'S ADVICE ON SUBJECT
OF AUSTCAN'S 1975 EXPORT LICENSES FOR DOLS 43,000 OF
EQUIPMENT (PARA 5 REFTEL). WAS THIS EQUIPMENT ACTUALLY
SHIPPED? WANTIRNA ADDRESS OF "ULTIMATE CONSIGNEE" WOULD
APPEAR TO BE MACPHERSON'S RESIDENCE. IF SO, WOULD SEEM
ULIKELY HE WAS IN FACT ULTIMATE CONSIGNEE.

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8. IF OEA/CD WISHES POST INITIATE FURTHER INVESTIGATION
THIS CASE, WE WILL NEED MORE PRECISE INSTRUCTIONS. FOR
EXAMPLE, WE UNFAMILIAR WITH EXCON REGULATIONS IN DETAIL,
AND WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE AS TO WHAT CONDITIONS, IF ANY,
WOULD ALLOW ONWARD TRANSFER EQUIPMENT SHIPPED IN 1975. WE
WOULD ALSO NEED MORE DESCRIPTIVE DATA SO WE KNOW PRECISELY
WHAT TO LOOK FOR, AS WELL AS INFORMATION CONCERNING CONDITIONS
OF LICENSE, TRANSFER, NEED FOR PRIOR APPROVAL, ETC. PLEASE
ADVISE.
BRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSACTION CHECKS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MELBOU00242
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770039-1076
Format: TEL
From: MELBOURNE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3407808
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUSTCAN INDUSTRIES, SUITE 21, 562 ST KILDA RD, MELBOURNE AND/OR 4 MAGNOLIA ST, WANTIRNA, VICTORIA; BRIAN K MCPHERSON, MANAGING DIRECTOR
TAGS: ESTC, PINR, AS, AUSTCAN IND
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5fce97cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009